

# MONEY

*in real life*



## Celebrate a Homecoming — Without Breaking the Bank

**First, the separation. ★ Then, the anticipation. ★ Now ... the celebration!**

Amid the excitement of welcoming your service member home, it's important to keep your finances in mind. Here's how to celebrate their homecoming without overspending:

- ★ **Set aside funds.** Save a little each week of the deployment to avoid taking on debt.
- ★ **Spread it out.** Opt for a few small get-togethers over one big blowout.
- ★ **Use low-cost resources.** Plan something memorable through your local [Information, Tickets and Travel office](#) or [MWR joint services campgrounds and facilities](#).
- ★ **Keep it simple.** Less can actually be more! Consider what's best for your family and mark the occasion in your own way.
- ★ **Think big picture.** Crunch the numbers and adjust your spending plan for increases, such as groceries and gas.

Regardless of how you celebrate, don't invite financial stress to the party. Make plans that fit your family *and* your finances.



Look to the Office of Financial Readiness [website](#) for more information and follow

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